

REMARKS

Claims 1- 59 remain pending in this application. Claims 60-73 have been cancelled without disclaimer and without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application directed to those claims. The remaining claims generally have been amended to improve the language thereof; additionally, claims 33, 43, 50, 55 and 59 have been amended to be in dependent form.

The restriction requirement is traversed, to the extent that it is maintained in view of the cancellation of claims 60-73. 37 CFR 1.475(b) provides that “a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combinations of categories: . . . (4) A process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process.” Here, claims 1- 29 and claims 30- 59 are related as a process and apparatus for carrying out the process respectively. Hence, under the applicable rule, 37 CFR 1.475(b)(4), the present application must be considered to have unity of invention with respect to claims 1- 59. To the extent the restriction requirement between claims 1-29 and 30-59 is maintained, it is respectfully submitted to be in error on its face, as such requirement would ignore Rule 1.475(b) and be in violation of that rule.

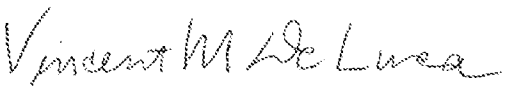
Further, claims 33, 43, 50, 55 and 59 have been amended to depend from claims 32, 42, 46, 53 and 58 respectively. Accordingly, rejoinder of claims 33-39, 43, 50, 55 and 59 with claims 30-32, 40-42, 44-49, 51-54, and 56-58 is indicated.

To comply with 37 CFR 1.143 and 1.499, Applicants elect the invention of Group II, presently consisting of claims 30-59, with traverse.

Conclusion

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination on the merits of claims 1-59 are respectfully requested.

Please charge any fee or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Novak Druce Deposit Account No. 14-1437.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
NAME AND REG. NUMBER	Vincent M. DeLuca Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 32,408				
SIGNATURE				DATE	9 June 2008
Address	Novak, Druce, DeLuca + Quigg LLP 1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 1000 West Tower				
City	Washington	State	D.C.	Zip Code	20005
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	202-659-0100	Fax	202-659-0105